

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Eliza Symonds Bell, October 4, 1879, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Mrs. Alexander Melville Bell. October 4, (1879)

My dear Mrs. Bell:

I am very sorry you should have been so much disappointed by our not coming on time, but I hope a week at latest will see us with you. At all events whenever we do come, we come prepared to stay at least a month if you care to keep us so long.

Alec leaves tomorrow night for Washington, alone for I do not like the idea of letting Elsie meet us alone and I have many things to do. I must take Elsie to see Alec's Salam friends, they would never forgive our going without seeing them. Then the Christening has not been accomplished yet as I have searched the length and breadth of Boston in vain for a suitable dress for her. I hope we none of us think her Salvation depends on her being baptised in a fine dress, but she really has nothing for nice and we want her to look nicely and prettily to make her as good a present outwardly and inwardly as we can.

Alec will return here and then we go altogether to Canada. Mamma wants us to start on Wednesday as our cook leaves then but I don't think I can be ready before Thursday, nor Alec either.

I must close now and see about making some farewell calls.

With much love, May Bell.